



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

John Hoeven
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2009-15

I, John Hoeven, Governor of the State of North Dakota, by the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim that a search and rescue emergency exists within the southwestern part of the state; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2009, three female Dickinson State University students, last seen riding in a 1997 white Jeep Cherokee, were reported missing at 11:30 p.m. in Stark County; and

WHEREAS, an extensive air, ground and water search and rescue operation is underway to search for the women whose last known cell phone signal was triangulated to an area north of South Heart; and

WHEREAS, the ND Highway Patrol (NDHP) and the ND Civil Air Patrol (NDCAP) have conducted aerial search and rescue missions on November 2 and 3 in support of local responders; and

WHEREAS, appropriate measures must be taken in response to the emergency to ensure a safe return of the missing females.

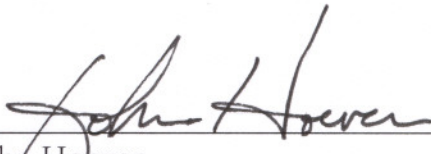
NOW, THEREFORE, I order that all state departments and administrators maintain search and rescue response resources and capabilities at high levels of readiness to execute responsibilities pursuant to the State Emergency Operations Plan.

This order is issued upon the following basis and for the following reasons:

1. The Governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution; and,
2. The Governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders to minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code; and,

3. A coordinated and effective effort of all state departments is required to minimize the impact of disasters and emergencies in this state.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 3 day of November, 2009.



John Hoeven
Governor

ATTEST:



Secretary of State

Deputy